GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6171
ANSWERED ON:07.05.2002
FUNDS TO PANCHAYATS FOR CENTRALLY SPONSORED SCHEMES
ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY;RAJO SINGH

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the funds allocated by the Union Government for centrally sponsored schemes to Panchayats are neither reaching within the stipulated time nor the State Governments are properly utilising them;

(b) if so, the facts and details in this regard;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to make available the funds in time for its proper utilization;

(d) whether the Union Government have decided to release funds directly to the Gram Panchayats;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the time by which the decision is likely to be taken up?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHEB M. K. PATIL)

(a) to (f): At present, under the Sampoorna Gramin Rojgar Yojana (SGRY), funds are released to Panchayats including Gram Panchayats through the District Panchayats/District Rural Development Agencies on fulfillment of certain prescribed conditions. These funds are generally reaching the Panchayats in time. As regards the release of Eleventh Finance Commission Grants for Panchayats, the funds are being released to the Panchayats through the State Governments. No grant has been withheld by the Government of India so far on the ground of its non-utilisation by the State Governments during the period 2000-2002.
Meetings have been held at various fora with the State Governments to review speedy implementation of the SGRY.Under the Area Officers Scheme of the Ministry of Rural Development, senior officers visit their allotted States/Districts to review the status of implementation of all the Schemes under this Ministry including that of SGRY. The officers of the Programme Division also visit the States/Districts for reviewing the progress.